

Amendments to the claims

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions of the claims.

Listing of the claims:

Claims 1-4 (canceled)

5. (previously presented) A protein or soluble fragment thereof produced by
- a) introducing an expression vector into an appropriate transfection host cell, wherein the expression vector comprises a DNA encoding a protein having SEQ ID NO: 2 or a soluble fragment thereof which is capable of specifically binding a cell membrane ligand for SEQ ID NO: 2;
- (b) growing said transfected cell in appropriate culture media; and
- (c) purifying the protein or the soluble fragment thereof.
6. (previously presented) An isolated protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or a fragment thereof which has the extracellular domain of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claims 7-23 (canceled)

24. (previously presented) A purified soluble H4-1BB polypeptide, wherein said polypeptide comprises the extracellular domain of SEQ ID NO: 2 or a fragment of the extracellular domain which is capable of specifically binding a cell membrane ligand for SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 25 (canceled)

26. (previously presented) A composition comprising a soluble H4-1BB of claim 24 in admixture with a suitable diluent, carrier, or excipient.

27. (previously presented) A soluble H4-1BB protein produced by
a) introducing an expression vector into an appropriate host cell to yield a transfected host cell, wherein the expression vector comprises a DNA molecule encoding the extracellular domain of H4-1BB having SEQ ID NO: 2 or a fragment of the extracellular domain which is capable of specifically binding a cell membrane ligand for SEQ ID NO: 2;
b) recovering the soluble protein from the host cell.

28. (currently amended) A soluble H4-1BB protein produced by
a) introducing an expression vector into an appropriate host cell to yield a
transfected host cell, wherein the expression vector comprises a DNA molecule is selected from
the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 7, or SEQ ID NO: 8 encoding the
extracellular domain of H4-1BB having SEQ ID NO: 2 or a fragment of the extracellular domain
which is capable of specifically binding a cell membrane ligand for SEQ ID NO: 2; and
b) recovering the soluble protein from the host cell. ~~The soluble H4-1BB~~
~~protein of claim 27 wherein the DNA molecule comprises any one of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID~~
~~NO: 7, or SEQ ID NO: 8.~~

29. (previously presented) The soluble H4-1BB protein of claim 27 wherein the DNA molecule encodes amino acid residues 1-186 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

30. (currently amended) A purified soluble H4-1BB polypeptide, wherein said
polypeptide comprises the extracellular domain of SEQ ID NO: 2 or a fragment of the
extracellular domain which is capable of specifically binding a cell membrane ligand for SEQ ID
NO:2, said polypeptide ~~The soluble H4-1BB protein of claim 24 which~~ is encoded by a DNA molecule comprising any one of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 7, or SEQ ID NO: 8.

31. (previously presented) The soluble H4-1BB protein of claim 24 which comprises amino acid residues 1186 of SEQ ID NO: 2.